# The Industrial Labour Welfare Association Ltd.,
COIMBATORE.

Welcome Speech by

## Sri G. D. NAIDU,

President, The Industrial Labour Welfare Association Ltd.,
Coimbatore.

Reply speech of

His Excellency, the Governor of Kerala

## Sri V. V. GIRI

at LUNCH PARTY

on 2nd April, 1961

at

"Gopal Bagh", Avanashi Road, Coimbatore.

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On 2—4—61 Sri G. D. Naidu, President, The Industrial Labour Welfare Association Ltd;, Coimbatore arranged a lunch party to His Excellency, the Governor of Kerala at ' Gopal Bagh " Coimbatore.

The elite of the town and most of the officers attended the function.

Sri Naidu wanted to know the nature of facilities that would be afforded for starting industries in Kerala.

In reply His Excellency, the Gavernor said that from his personal knowledge and experience Kerala was the safest place to start industries and that the Kerala Government would come forward to render all possible help to start industries. He invited Sri G. D. Naidu to come up with schemes for starting new industries.

Speech by

# Shri G. D. NAIDU

at the Lunch Party to His Excellency
The Governor of Kerala at "Gopal Bagh",
on 2—4—1961.

*Friends,*

I don't want to give any speech here now. In order to extract work from the Governor of Kerala, I have to ask some questions to answer. From what I heard there a few hours back, I have noted several points here. If I mention that, I will get the title of half crack. Therefore I don't want to mention all those things here.

Now there are some youngsters here. They want to start some industries in Malabar, I mean in Kerala, if there is no condition imposed as in other collaborations in other countries. Here also there are some collaboration conditions.

If Coimbatore Industrial people collaborate with Kerala to have the industries in Kerala, what are the conveniences you are going to give?

Some years back Sir Shanmugham Chettiar was the Diwan there. He offered that for 10 years there would be no current charges, no incometax, no licence fees or anything. Like that he offered. In the same way what concessions can you give? One particular condition for this collaboration is, you should not insist to locate in a certain place. Wherever they want they should be able to locate. In that way some mills and some other machinery industries are ready to come there and they want to know about that one and also about the collaboration.

Regarding collaboration, there is some thing going on in foreign collaboration, it is mentioned here in to-day's paper, in one of these papers. If such facilities we get, many industries will come to Kerala. We want to know about that collaboration, what facilities you can give. Two friends are here. Perhaps they may also ask you questions. For that also you have to give your answer. They wanted to see you before coming here. They may also ask you some questions. Many other friends are also ready to come there if they know what convenience you will give. You tell that and then they will ask you questions.

Of course he is not only Governor of administration, Governor of Ministers and

Governor of industries also. Therefore no red-tapism there as we have here. One instance I will tell you. Our chairman gave one licence, permission in 1959 February but that licence arrived here in 1961 February. It won't be like that in Kerala. (I hope not). No. The Governor ordered for one road in Malampuzha. "In one month I want this road" he said. That road was completed there. Like that he is industries Governor, not industries minister. Industries Governor, if he says anything, he can do it.

Now we want to know what facilities you can give in Kerala if anybody comes and starts industries there.

Speech by

## Shri V. V. GIRI,

Governor of Kerala, in reply to the questions put by Shri G. D. Naidu after lunch at Gopal Bagh, Coimbatore on the 2nd April, 1961, about the facilities which the Kerala Government can give to the industrialists to locate industries there.

*Mr. G. D. Naidu, Friends,*
*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Mr. Naidu's requests are generally commands and our friendship is certainly more than three decades, old. Therefore if he puts any question, I am bound to give a satisfactory reply. When I was in Uttar Pradesh and before I came over here, I knew the problems of Kerala. Kerala has the densest population, most probably as compared to any other country in the world and therefore the problem is one of securing employment for the people over there. Kerala has an area of 15,000 square miles of which 5,000 square miles are mountains and rivers and for 10,000 square miles there is a population under the

present census nearly of a crore and 75 lakhs. The population of Rajasthan which is far bigger than Kerala is only 2½ crores, so also Madya Pradesh. So the problem of Kerala is one of bread and butter and not so much of 'Isms'.

But there has been a sort of feeling in the minds of industrialists in other parts of India that if they started industries in Kerala, there will be trouble. The fact was when I was coming from U. P. I asked them to come to Kerala and establish industries. They said "we are prepared to invest our money; We are prepared to lose it; but we are not prepared to lose our lives." There is a feeling everywhere that in Kerala there is a fear of assault from people belonging to affiliations which believe in violence and so forth. I thought that it was wrong most probably. So I told them, that after going there if I was convinced that it was the safest place, they could come and establish industries or I may be convinced of their view that Kerala was not a fit place for locating industries. After I went there I have come to the conclusion in the matter

that if there is any place where industries could be located, the safest place is Kerala. That is my view and my view has a value since I have dealt with the workers for nearly four decades. Not only that industrial agreements are quite common and industrial agreements are kept up by both the employers and workers like gentlemen. There are different trade union affiliations– AITUC, INTUC, P.S.P., R.S.P. – in every undertaking; but it so happens that in all the biggest undertakings there has been an agreement of these different affiliations with the employer, agreeing to certain conditions of work and it is working wonderfully satisfactorily. You must understand that the Kerala people are most educated – both men and women and they understand the implications more easily than the rest of the people in India.

I came to the perfect conclusion that I would convince anybody foreign or indigenous industrialists that there is no safer place than Kerala to locate their industries. Having come to that conclusion I ordered the Kerala Development Council

to meet in Bombay. It must be said to the credit of the Malayalis there, they had organised the whole conference in such a way that 250 industrialists – not Malayalis – attended the conference from all parts of India and they were convinced when I explained to them that Kerala is the safest place for locating industries. They were so convinced to-day that we are having applications in large numbers and during the last two months there were nearly 150 applications, people rushing into Kerala wanting to know what they could do and what are the facilities that could be given and so on. I expect that many industries will be established soon.

Mr. Naidu asked what are the facilities that will be given by the Government. I shall send him – I have not got with me a copy now – a copy of the resolution of the Government containing the facilities that could be given to the people, and in fact I have extended invitations on behalf of my Government to those industrialists, who desire to locate the industries of their liking and the places where they would like

to locate them, to come and see for themselves and we will go all out to see that facilities are given to them without unnecessary red-tapism coming into existence, and when they come I also take part in the discussion along with the Industries Minister and others. Therefore I do not wish to say exactly what will be given, where it will be given and all that. The resolution explains that. I shall certainly send it on to Mr. Naidu. But facilities in the matter of power supply etc., will all be there, how far we can accommodate them so far as place is concerned and even go to the extent of collaborating with the industrialists that come over there by also putting our shares, so that the governmental responsibility and the facilities that the industrialists would get by such collaboration which gives a status to the industry will also be there. Therefore I can assure Mr. Naidu that things should be done expeditiously and that facilities regarding land, location, collaboration and all will be done in good spirit and I am therefore anxious that industrialists from here should come over there.

In fact speaking personally I do not believe in the division of India into various States. That was a stage through which we had to pass on account of various political and moral grounds and certain sections were responsible for dividing the country with so many States. I therefore hold that it is a passing phase – whether it is Kerala, Tamil Nad, Andhra, Mysore and so on. A time will come when there shall only be five zones in India, north, south, east, west and central. But at the same time I must submit, as I have said, it is a passing phase and the various linguistic areas believe and I think with some reason and justice that for a time if they are divided on the basis of linguistic ideas and views their particular interests would be helped substantially. That was the reason why they thought of these linguistic areas. But I think when these, if I may say so, propensities of the different sections belonging to different linguistic states are satisfied, they will realize that it will be good to have one unit. The States then need not think that they are independent states and one such independent

unit need not fight with the other either for the supply of food, water and so on and if these fights continue most probably the Government of India with a stroke of the pen will say that all rivers, all power and irrigation sources are the property of the Government of India and they would distribute it and do justice to the people. It is not for me as the Governor to speak like that. Whether I am an Ambassador, a Governor or a Minister, I am essentially an agitator and I shall continue to be an agitator whether I am a Governor or not and I am generally not afraid to express my opinions, because I want people to think loudly for themselves. I do not see the reason why even if a man happens to be a Governor you should deprive him of the liberty of a citizen to express his views so long as it does not harm the state of which he is the head.

Anyway I think I have stated in reply to Mr. Naidu generally that he will have a welcome and all those who would like to come will have a welcome and ultimately wherever we start industries, wherever we

start irrigation or power projects, it is not for that particular place but to improve the economy of the whole country. I do not wish to say more. I never expected to make a speech; but Mr. Naidu has a knack of making others to speak and therefore I had to get up and make a short speech. I thank Mr. Naidu for the reception he has given me and I always treasure your affection all the time so long as I live in this world. I thank you for the patient hearing you have given me.

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